

REMARKS


Applicant responds to the final rejection mailed November 30, 2005. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-8, 10, 11 and 16-20. Applicant contests the rejection of claims 23 and 24 as being anticipated by Noren Patent 4,676,365. While Applicant appreciates the inclusion of a marked-up drawing of Figs. 2 and 3 of Noren, it is most respectfully presented that this reference falls far short of teaching the limitations of claims 23 and 24. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection is solicited for the reasons presented below.

Claims 23 and 24 specifically provide for "a drive track disposed in a vertically oriented looped path, such looped path having a pair of transverse legs offset in a vertical direction." As acknowledged by the Examiner in the marked-up copy of the drawings, Noren teaches a drive track disposed in a horizontally oriented looped path, typical of the prior art. The present invention provides the improvement of having the drive track in a vertically oriented looped path having a pair of legs offset in a vertical direction. That structure is nowhere shown or suggested by Noren.

The claimed invention is not directed to a drive track that is vertically oriented off of the floor, as suggested by the Examiner. It is, however, directed to a vertically oriented looped path, which one of ordinary skill in the art, making reference to the specification and drawings, would readily understand as being a looped path in a substantially vertical plane, with transverse legs offset in a vertical direction as clearly stated in the claims. This structure is simply not present in Noren, which teaches a drive track disposed in a horizontally oriented looped path having a pair of transverse legs offset in a horizontal direction.

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration of the rejection of claims 23 and 24 is solicited and allowance of the same is believed to be in order. Should the Examiner deem a telephonic conference to be beneficial in resolving any remaining matters, the same would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



Ray L. Weber, Reg. No. 26,519
Renner, Kenner, Greive, Bobak, Taylor & Weber
First National Tower - Fourth Floor
Akron, Ohio 44308-1456
Telephone: (330) 376-1242
Facsimile: (330) 376-9646
E-mail: rlweber@rennerkenner.com

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Dated: January 25, 2006